

M-17-51-14

1924

George and Ora Lyles House

Private

Jerusalem (Poolesville vicinity)

This fine two story frame house with four rooms down and four up is one of the largest built by black landowners in rural Montgomery County in the first quarter of the 20th century. Its present owner/occupant, Ora McPherson Lyles, raised in the McPherson house next door, has a rich store of knowledge about family and community history.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Magi #  
M-17-51-14

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC George and Ora Lyles House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER West side of Jerusalem Rd.

CITY, TOWN  
Jerusalem

☒ VICINITY OF Poolesville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
3

STATE  
Md.

COUNTY  
Montgomery

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
	Nb	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Ora S. Lyles

Telephone #: 349-3396

STREET & NUMBER  
18616 Jerusalem Church Rd.

CITY, TOWN  
Poolesville

☒ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code  
Md.

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE.  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Registry of Deeds, County Courthouse

Liber #: 1978

Folio #: 603

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE

Md.

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

M: 17-51-14

**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT  
☒ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

This two story house faces east and stands on the west side of Jerusalem Church Rd. In front of it is a well-kept lawn with shade trees, and to the north is a small vegetable garden. To the south is a tract also owned by the Lyles, and on that property stands a long mobile home.

The house consists of essentially two sections: the principal one block and additions on the northemside. The principal block is a double pile house in plan, having two units in front and two behind. The principal block is three bays in length and two in depth. The bays along the front length are two windows and a door placed as a side entrance, opening into a stair hall. Outside, the entire facade is sheltered by a shed porch supported by handsome turned posts with banisters between them. The frame is sheathed with German siding, and is topped with a hipped roof. There is a gable dormer window with jerkin-head.

Inside the house, the front rooms are the stair hall and living room, and behind them are the dining room and kitchen. The living room has a number of family pictures on the wall: Charles McPherson and Josephine Duffin, parents of Ora Lyles: Ora and George Lyles' wedding picture: and the marriage license of her parents as well as her own. Mrs. Lyles also has pictures of people special to her life, such as a photograph of her music teacher. In addition, she has books of poems, which she loves to read and memorize. She also has her family Bible which contains a record of her family, and an Almanac of the year of her birth (1894) in which the page and day of her birth ~~was~~ were marked by her mother. In the kitchen is a very large and handsome wood stove, probably of the early 1900's and still in fine working condition. Upstairs there are four bedrooms and a bath, plus an attic. The house also has a basement.

Attached to the northern side of the house is the second section. It consists of several one story frame rooms. The northwest one served as a community grocery store operated by the Lyles, and the others included a small restroom and a second kitchen.

Notes: Oral Interview with Ora Lyles  
18616 Jerusalem Church Rd.  
Jerusalem Community  
August, 1978

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

Black History

SPECIFIC DATES

1924

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Henry

Ford and

Cragger

?

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This two story house with four rooms down and four up is one of the largest built by Black landowners in the first quarter of the 20th century. There were scores of log houses and a good many two story frame houses with two rooms down and two up, but very few to equal this one in size.

Deed FBS 268/9 shows that George and Ora Lyles purchased this property of 3.3 acres in 1915 from the Poole family. Mrs. Lyles recalls that the house was built in 1924. She and her husband (now deceased) had worked in Philadelphia, New York and New Jersey as a "first class butler" and a "first class cook" in order to save money to build this house after their marriage in 1915. Mrs. Lyles' last job, she remembers, was as the cook for the daughter of Senator Newland in Washington. In 1924 they hired two white carpenters Henry Ford and Cragger from Beallsville at a rate of \$2.50 per day per person. Combining the costs of labor, building materials, and decorative trimming the house cost a little over \$2,000, Mrs. Lyles recalls. For that time, that was of course, an formidable amount of money.

After building the house, George Lyles worked as a track man on the railroad and later worked in Rockville as street cleaner. He also assisted Elmer Jones from Jonesville, who was a brick layer and carpenter.

As part of this survey, the family photographs of Mrs. Lyles' parents were recorded, as were the wedding picture of her and her husband, the marriage license of her parents, and her family almanac of 1894.

Mrs. Lyles has an important family history. Her mother was Josephine Duffin. Her grandparents were Mahalia and Joshua Duffin, who lived at the farm known as "The Pines", directly west of the William Wallace Poole farm on Rt. 109. Mrs Lyles was raised on that farm in a small log house with two rooms down and two up. Her parents' house has since been pulled down but the home of her neighbors, Henry and Mandy Wins still stands. It has been recorded as part of this survey. According to Mrs. Lyles, the children of Mahalia and Joshua Duffin were the following: Alice (who lived in Baltimore); Alice (whose husband was named Neale, or Neile); Bilder (who remained single); Mary (who married Mildry Talley); Josephine (who married Charles McPherson); Joshua Duffin (his wife was not known by Mrs. Lyles), James (single); Caleb (unknown spouse) and Gassaway (remained single). This Duffin community, whose houses there have been surveyed. For more information see Sharon Duffin in Rockville.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Land Records, County Courthouse, Rockville  
 Oral Interviews, Ora Lyles, Jerusalem, August 1978

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

George W. McDaniel, Surveyor

Wesley Stubbs, Research Assistant

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE

August 1978

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

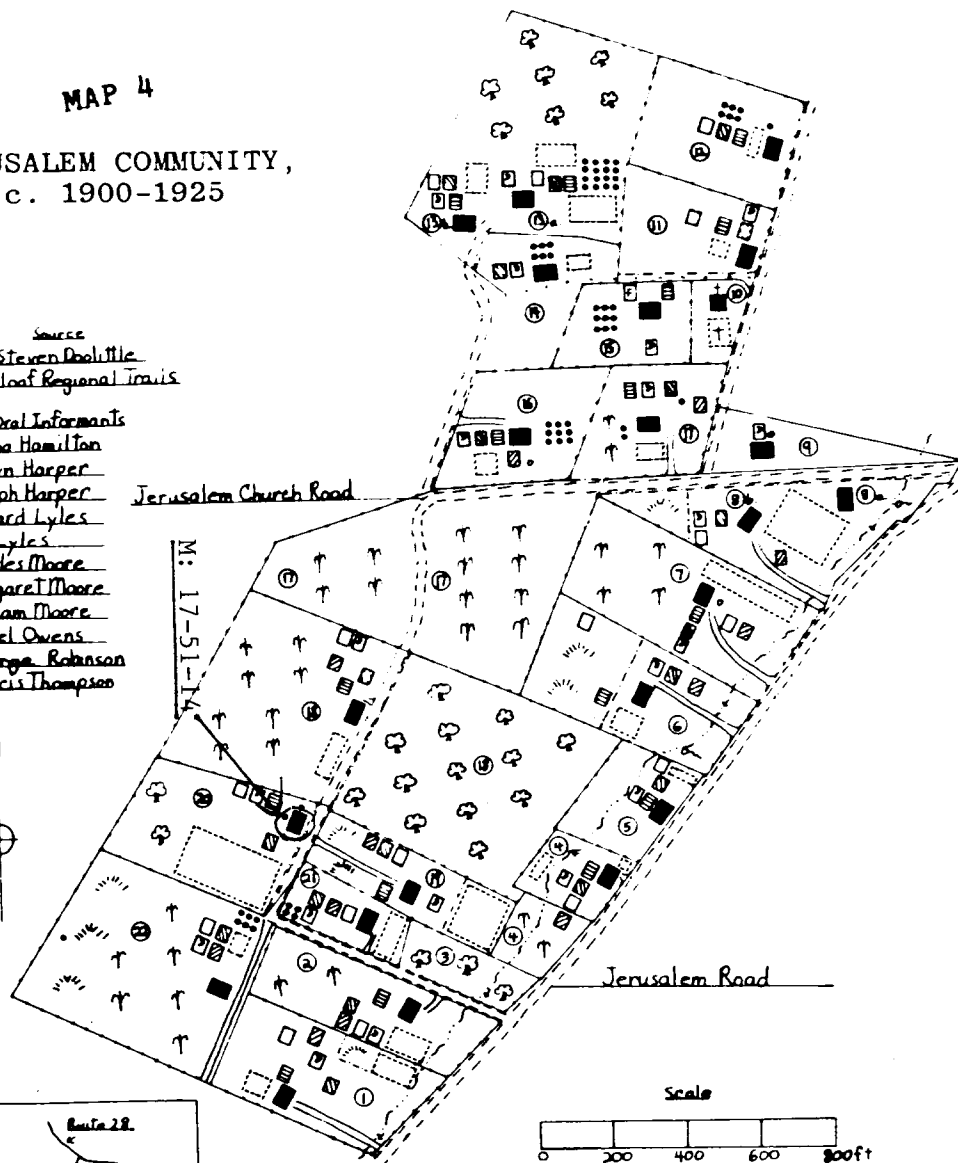
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 267-1438

# MAP 4 JERUSALEM COMMUNITY, c. 1900-1925

Source  
Steven DeLittle  
Sugarloaf Regional Trails

Oral Informants  
Joshua Hamilton  
Evelyn Harper  
Joseph Harper  
Howard Lyles  
Ora Lyles  
Charles Moore  
Margaret Moore  
William Moore  
Isabel Owens  
George Robinson  
Francis Thompson



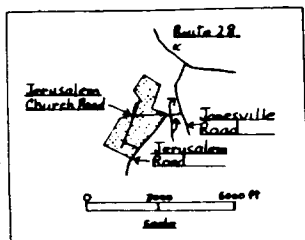
## Key

CHURCH	
CEMETERY	
LODGE	
COMMUNITY CENTER	
STORE	
POST OFFICE	
SCHOOL	
DWELLING	
PRIVY	
STABLE	
MEAT HOUSE	
HEN HOUSE	
MILK HOUSE	
CORN/FEED HOUSE	
PIG PEN	
GARDEN	
PASTURE	
CORNFIELD	
HAY FIELD	
ORCHARD	
FOREST	
THICKET	
WELL	
SPRING	
STREAM	
POND	
PARCEL BOUNDARY	
FENCED PARCEL BDY.	
FENCE	
DIRT ROAD	
LANE	
PATH	
STREAM FLOW	

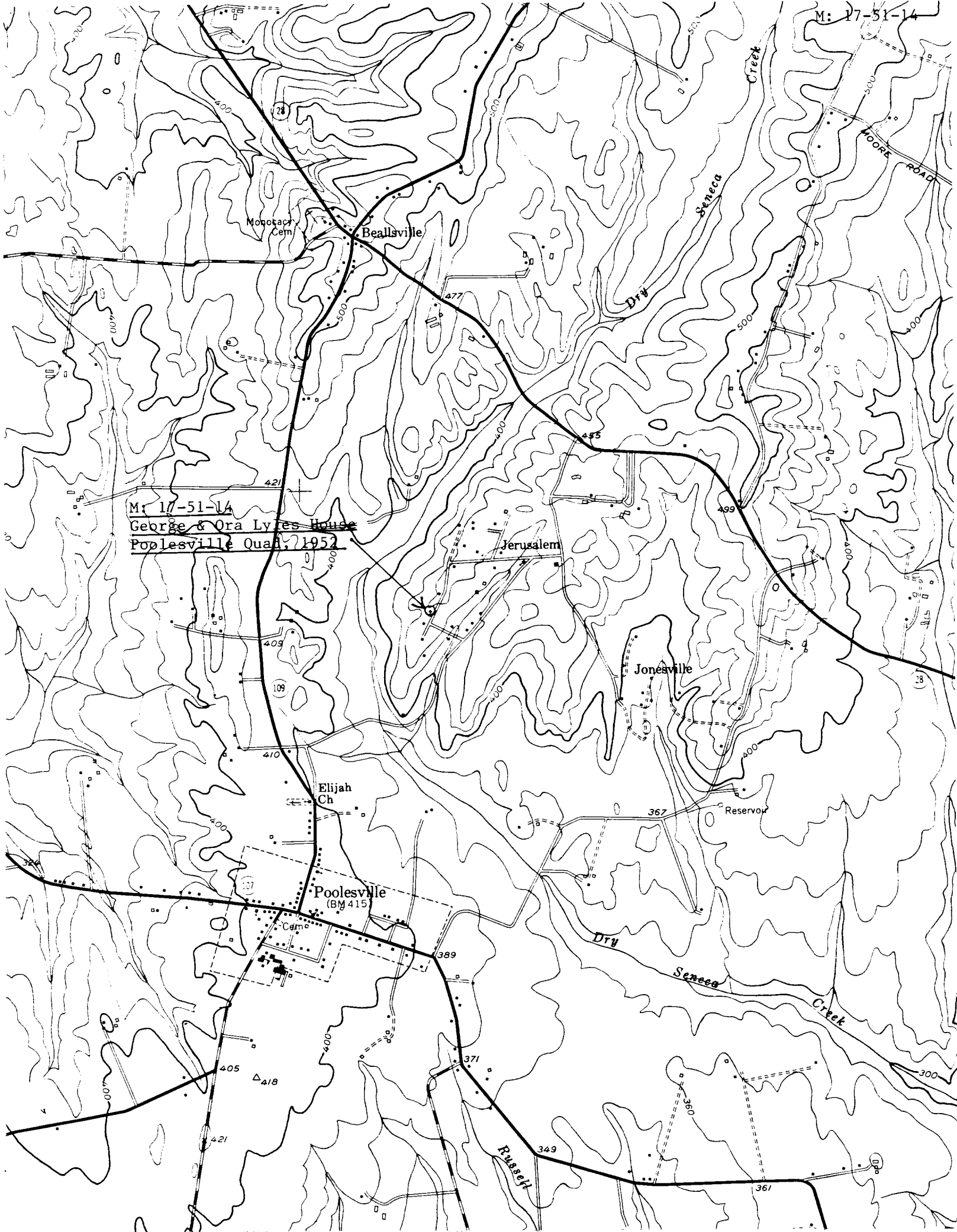
DWELLINGS AND OUTBUILDINGS NOT DRAWN TO SCALE

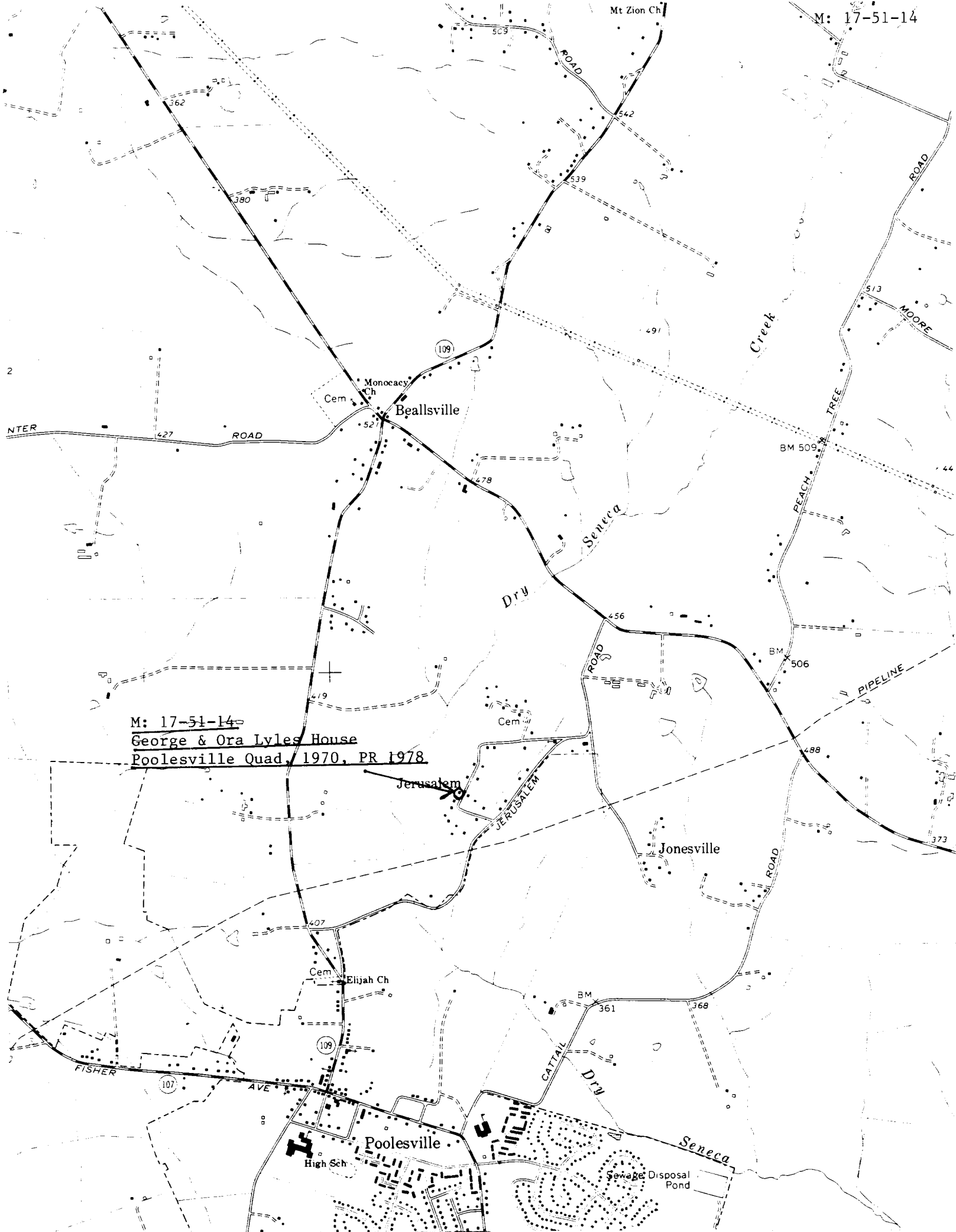
HSTD. = HOMESTEAD PROP. = PROPERTY

1. WILLIAM ROBINSON HSTD.	3.22 AC.
2. SARAH JOHNSON HSTD.	2.00 AC.
3. MILTON HARPER HSTD.	1.00 AC.
4. WILLIAM LYLES HSTD.	2.00 AC.
5. SUSAN PROCTOR HSTD.	1.00 AC.
6. FRANK DORSEY HSTD.	2.90 AC.
7. GEORGE DORSEY HSTD.	4.75 AC.
8a. 1st CLARKE HOME (log)	4.40 AC.
b. 2nd CLARKE HOME (frame)	
9. JERUSALEM PARSONAGE	1.50 AC.
10. JERUSALEM CHURCH	0.50 AC.
11. WILLIAM DORSEY HSTD.	2.00 AC.
12. JAMES DORSEY HSTD.	3.00 AC.
13a. WILLIAM MOORE HSTD.	7.00 AC.
b. BARTLEY MOORE HSTD.	
14. DAVID COPELAND HSTD.	2.00 AC.
15. ROBERT WILLIAMS HSTD.	3.75 AC.
16. WALLACE HAMILTON HSTD.	2.50 AC.
17. DENNIS HAMILTON HSTD.	9.66 AC.
18. CHARLES McPHERSON HSTD.	11.00 AC.
19. LIZZIE GRIMES HSTD.	4.00 AC.
20. GEORGE LYLES HSTD.	3.00 AC.
21. JOHN HARPER HSTD.	1.00 AC.
22. JOHN HALLMAN HSTD.	10.00 AC.



M: 17-51-14









Lyles House

M-17-51-14

East Elev.: facade

Jerusalem

Anne Lewis

10/78



Lyles House, m. — 17-51-14

South Elev.

Jerusalem

10/78

Anne Lewis

145-10



Lyle House

M - 17-51-14

W. Elev. : Rear w/ outbuildings

Jerusalem

10/78

Anne Lewis

11-541



ora hyles ~~to~~ & her wood stove

m - 17-51-14

Jerusalem

10/78

Anne Lewis





from  
George & Lyle House  
Interview

m-17-51-14

Jerusalem  
10/78

Anne Lewis

145-2



Josephine Duffin McPherson

mother of ora M. Lyles

m - 17-51-17 And m-17-51-14

Jerusalem

Anne Lewis

10/78

This  
CERTIFIES

that

Mr Geo T. Tyler  
of Poolville Maryland  
and  
Miss Eva S. McPherson  
of Poolville Maryland  
are united by me in

Holy Matrimony

on the Eighteenth day of  
August A.D. Nineteen Hundred and Fourteen

Plainfield

in accordance with the laws of New Jersey

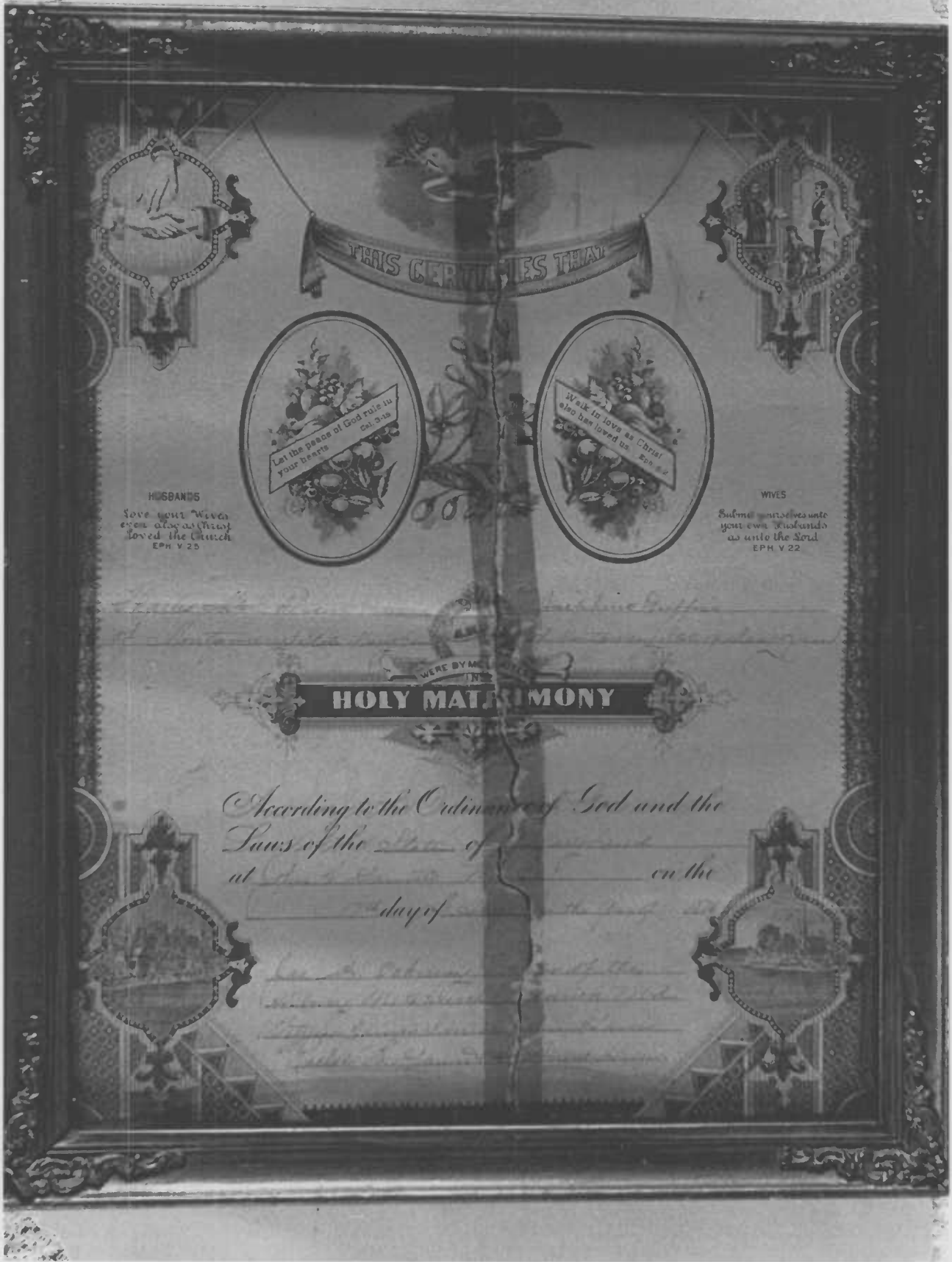
Dated this 18th day of  
August A.D. 1914

H. H. Hacke  
Eugene McPherson Minister  
Anna Livingston

Marriage Certificate  
of George Lykes + Ora McPherson  
Jerusalem M - 17-51-17

Anne Lewis  
10/78

145.16



THIS CERTIFIES THAT



HUSBANDS  
Love your Wives  
even as the Church  
loved the Church  
Eph. V 25

WIVES  
Submit yourselves unto  
your own Husbands  
as unto the Lord  
Eph. V 22

WERE BY ME  
**HOLY MATRIMONY**

According to the Ordinance of God and the  
Laws of the State of \_\_\_\_\_  
at \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_  
day of \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_  
do hereby certify that the  
above named \_\_\_\_\_  
and \_\_\_\_\_  
have been lawfully joined in Holy Matrimony

Marriage Certificate of

Josephine + Charles McPherson  
1876

M-17-51-17 And M-17-51-14

Jerusalem

Anne Lewis

10/78





Charles McPherson

M - 17-51-17

Jerusalem

11/78

Anne Lewis

145-15



marriage photo of George + Ora  
Lyles

M - 17-51-~~49~~ 14

Jerusalem

10/78

Anne Lewis